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EIN-3210

~~KAPOK~~

Chief of Station, Vienna

20 September 1956

Chief of Base, Munich

Info: 600/0

NS

PSB

curved~~KAPOK~~/operational/UPMINGAir Force Involvement with Albert KLÄUSNER and Richard BOERNIG

1. Transmitted herewith are photocopies of Air Force (7325th Special Activities Squadron) operational files on Albert KLÄUSNER and Richard BOERNIG. These files should be of interest to Vienna and NS/4 in so far as they reflect Air Force targets and means operated. In particular, attention is called to Contact Report No. 16 in File "4" re. the proposed visit to Lt. Col. FISCHER, and Contact Report No. 11, File "4", which pertains to the attempt to recruit a Lt. Col. in the Austrian Gendarmerie.

2. The opportunity to obtain these files, which led to the discovery that both KLÄUSNER and BOERNIG are UPMING agents, came about one day during a conversation with 7325th representatives and the undersigned, regarding another case involving the Middle East. The Air Force representatives volunteered the information that they had been in contact with Albert KLÄUSNER (former Abwehr type born 4 July 1900, Oberstaedten, who had been imprisoned in the Soviet Union 45 - 53). I. had told his agent handler a story, later proved false and irrelevant, which was sufficiently interesting at the time to cause Shandough to ask for more details on I. and his associates. Air Force turned over its complete file. NSB-PSB files indicated that KLÄUSNER and BOERNIG might be UPMINGERS, and with Air Force knowledge our suspicions were confirmed by checking with UPMING.

3. PSB is exploring the case with UPMING and will report developments separately. Air Force has dropped contact with both agents and is barring them as fabricators. Air Force will be informed locally of any developments which might affect its security via a via UPMING or the FBI, although at this juncture, it seems more likely that subjects are opportunists more interested in peddling information than in penetrating Western Intelligence Services for the KGB.

4. A detailed report on the development (and decline) of this case has not been submitted as it appears that l'affaire KLÄUSNER et al is a dead issue as far as KUBARK operational activity is concerned. Pertinent facts regarding UPMING and Air Force security, and the possibility of KGB involvement, will be reported in subsequent PSB correspondence. Air Force recognizes that all of the "operational leads" (many of which were already known to KUBARK) reported in this

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case are uncatchable because as they will, of course, be blown during the UPWARD Interrogation of HAUPTMANN and BOHNING. In short, there can be no operational factors of interest to KGB or RUS at this time.

5. Our liaison relationship with Air Force, however, may be somewhat more complicated. We have had the opportunity to read the complete case file on a low-level Air Force operation, and can see even in this *fringe-type* case (or perhaps particularly in this sort of haphazard operation) the type of operational thinking and lack of organizational control which could have various consequences for the intelligence community in Austria (i.e. the attempt to recruit an officer in the Austrian Government, a planned penetration of the Austrian Intelligence Service). This is not to say that the responsible officers of the 7105th would have condoned these activities had they known of them, but rather to point out that an American agent handler was permitted to direct an agent against these sensitive targets.

6. Our liaison relationship is further complicated by the fact that the Tschirky, in the recent spirit of cooperation (see KHA-14-1101) made every effort to cooperate with KGB on this case and has no idea that its files have been reproduced for scrutiny by FBI and Headquarters. Internal Air Force politics related to Tschirky is in strict confidence by Joe Bell (Chief, Lead and Special Operations Section), are also conflict here. Higher ranking 7105th personnel are very much disturbed by the way in which this case was handled by the agent handler, Capt. William Remington aka Paul Palmer. Remington is an AFM, and, as is obvious from a reading of the case, incredibly naive in respect to clandestine operations. Evidently Remington was reporting directly to an AFM officer during the earlier stages of the operation, and Remington (Sergeant) is reluctant to start a fight with the AFM people over Remington until the full ramifications of the case are known. If his involvement is uncovered, it is most likely that Remington will be court-martialed for his refusal to name the source of his lead to HAUPTMANN. In view of the above, Headquarters would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the case in some detail with Remington at the latter's wishes to raise any of the Austrian aspects at the next agreed activities meeting with Air Force.

Approved: *C*

Attachments:
Photocopies of Files

Instructions:

3 - OGA, Vienna, w/att
2 - GSA/6
3 - HE
2 - FBI
1 - KGB

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John